

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MCE-00 OPR-02 /063 W

-----129675 151830Z /53

R 142137Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8479

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 5339

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, HO, NU

SUBJECT: MELGAR COMMENTS ON COUP PLOT: REPLIES TO IAPA CABLE ON PRE
SS

FREEDOM

REF: TEGUCIGALP 5292 (DTG 111709Z NOV 77)

1. IN A SHORT PRESS INTERVIEW PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 11, HONDURAN
CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR DENIED RUMORS THAT THE ALLEGED COUP PLOT
WOULD BECOME AN EXCUSE TO POSTPONE ELECTIONS. HE ALSO DENIED
THAT HIGHER LEVEL MILITARY OFFICERS WERE INVOLVED OR THAT
THERE WAS ANY DIVISION WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES.

2. REPLYING TO A TELEGRAM FROM THE INTER-AMERICAN PRESS
ASSOCIATION (IAPA), GENERAL MELGAR CABLED GUIDO FERNANDEZ,
DIRECTOR OF LA NACION OF SAN JOSE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE IAPA'S
FREEDOM OF PRESS COMMITTEE, THAT PRAXEDES MARTINEZ, SUB-
DIRECTOR OF LA PRENSA WAS BEING TRIED IN THE COURT SYSTEM
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ACCUSED OF CRIME OF REBELLION. MELGAR EMPHASIZED THAT
COMPLETE FREEDOM (OF PRESS) EXISTS IN HONDURAS, AND THAT
MARTINEZ' STATUS AS A NEWSMAN HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE
CRIME OF WHICH HE IS ACCUSED.

3. COMMENT: MELGAR'S STATEMENTS, WHILE PERHAPS REASSURING
TO THE PUBLIC ON ELECTIONS, DO NOT SHED FURTHER LIGHT ON

THIS UNUSUAL COUP NOR WILL HIS COMMENTS CLEAR UP
CONFUSION ABOUT ALLEGED NICARAGUAN INVOLVEMENT, POSSIBLE
MILITARY PLOTTING OR THE UNCONVINCING CONSPIRATORIAL NATURE OF
THOSE SO FAR IMPLICATED.
JARAMILLO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PLOTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TEGUCI05339
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771161/aaaabzys.tel
Line Count: 67
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c1d1f31a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TEGUCIGALPA 5292
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 597138
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Subject: MELGAR COMMENTS ON COUP PLOT: REPLIES TO IAPA CABLE ON PRE SS FREEDOM
TAGS: PINT, PINS, HO, NU
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Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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